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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Peter M. Bonutti

Attorney Docket No.: 780-A02-014-7

Application No.: 09/872,526

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: June 1, 2001

Examiner: D. Daniel

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR TISSUE REMOVAL

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.56**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of C.F.R. § 1.56, there is hereby provided certain information, which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the application.

Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are: (a) revised Form PTO/SB/08; and (b) copies of the cited references.

No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be prior art, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) before the latter of three months after the U.S. patent application filing date or the first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, no fee or certification is required.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 12/31/02

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